

Growth Visioning

Winter/Spring 2003



**Under the
Compass program,
Southern
California
residents will be
able to offer their
opinions and ideas
on long-range
planning scenarios
via the Internet,
Public Workshops
and Community
Forums.**



Southern California Compass Nation's Largest and Most Ambitious Visioning Program

For decades, Southern California has experienced some of the most dramatic growth seen anywhere in the world. The collective population now surpasses 17 million and is projected to increase by another six million people by 2030. Our growing families will account for two-thirds of that growth. Accommodating this growth and change while protecting what we value is a top priority.

Southern California Compass is the dynamic planning process that will set in motion a guide for the region's future. The two-year program, which kicked off in January, was initiated by SCAG. It is an organized forum for public, private, educational and nonprofit groups from six counties to craft a far-sighted common vision that reaches across political boundaries to address quality of life issues for the region: air quality, open space, transportation, housing and jobs.

The Process

Southern California Compass is utilizing some 20 public workshops spread throughout the region in which participants work hands-on to distribute homes and jobs across the region, decide where new roads and transit lines should be, and set aside areas that should be preserved as parks.

The Southern California Compass team will take the results of the workshops and use them to create several regional draft growth scenarios. These scenarios will be widely released to the general public allowing them to choose their "preferred vision" via mail-in and electronic mail ballots. In the end this process will deliver a "Preferred Regional Growth Vision" leading to an Implementation Strategy and Final Report. Integrated into SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan, the vision will set the course of all other planning efforts.

In the Hands of Experts

To lead Southern California Compass, SCAG selected the team of Fregonese Calthorpe Associates (FCA). FCA has been at the forefront of some of the most successful growth visioning processes in the nation, achieving successful results for communities such as Portland, Salt Lake City, Denver and Chicago. They are the pioneers in the evolving technical and public involvement techniques used to engage thousands of people in envisioning the future. Their work here has just begun.

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Resolving Regional Challenges

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